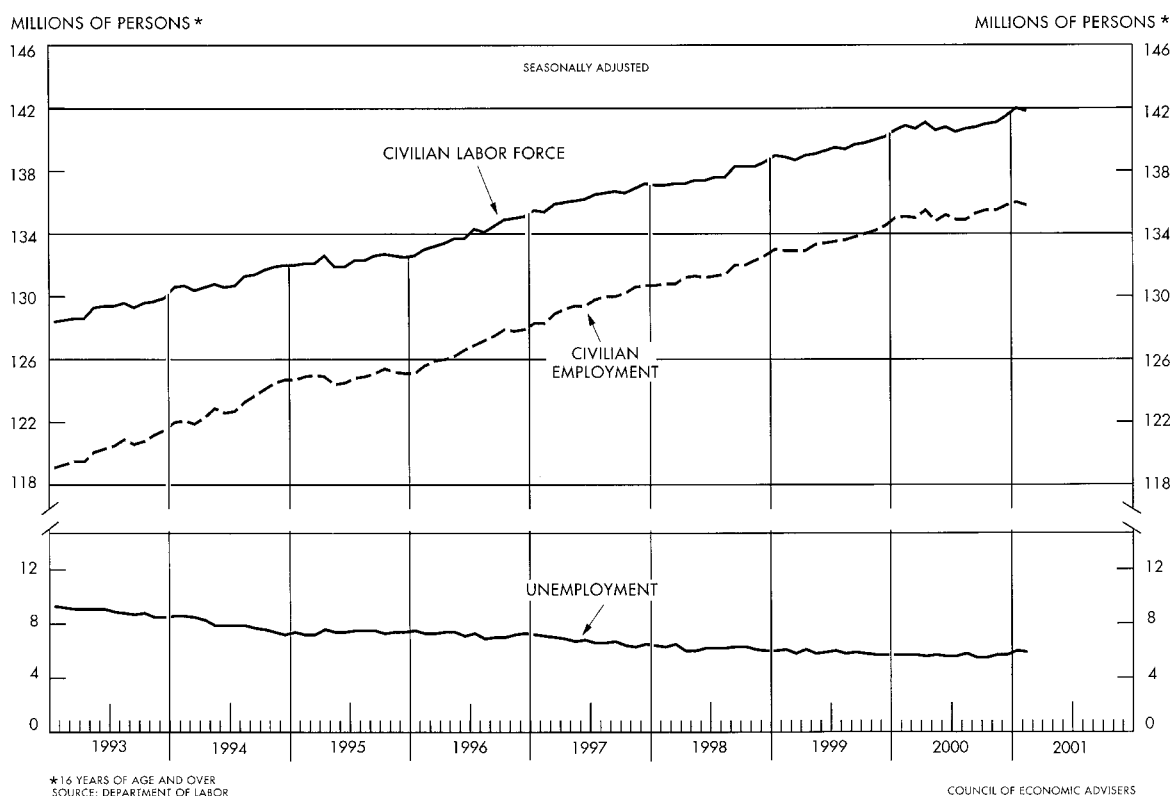


EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In February, employment fell by 184,000, and unemployment fell by 20,000.



[Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over, except as noted; monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted by NSA]

Period	Civilian noninstitutional population NSA	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment				Unemployment		Not in labor force	Percent ²		
			Total	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over		Labor force participation rate	Employment/ population ratio	Unemployment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons ¹						
1991	190,925	126,346	117,718	3,269	114,449	5,874	8,628	2,357	64,578	66.2	61.7	6.8
1992	192,805	128,105	118,492	3,247	115,245	6,240	9,613	3,408	64,700	66.4	61.5	7.5
1993	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	6,230	8,940	3,094	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 ³	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	4,414	7,996	2,860	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	4,279	7,404	2,363	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	4,123	7,236	2,316	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 ⁴	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	3,879	6,739	2,062	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1998 ⁴	205,220	137,673	131,463	3,378	128,025	3,501	6,210	1,637	67,547	67.1	64.1	4.5
1999 ⁴	207,753	139,368	133,488	3,281	130,207	3,189	5,880	1,480	68,385	67.1	64.3	4.2
2000 ⁴	209,699	140,863	135,208	3,305	131,903	3,045	5,655	1,309	68,836	67.2	64.5	4.0
2000: Feb	208,907	140,860	135,120	3,367	131,753	2,997	5,740	1,292	68,047	67.4	64.7	4.1
Mar	209,053	140,705	135,013	3,338	131,675	3,002	5,692	1,300	68,348	67.3	64.6	4.0
Apr	209,216	141,114	135,517	3,360	132,157	3,021	5,597	1,274	68,102	67.4	64.8	4.0
May	209,371	140,573	134,843	3,294	131,549	3,077	5,730	1,325	68,798	67.1	64.4	4.1
June	209,543	140,757	135,183	3,313	131,870	2,981	5,574	1,260	68,786	67.2	64.5	4.0
July	209,727	140,546	134,898	3,295	131,603	2,972	5,648	1,319	69,181	67.0	64.3	4.0
Aug	209,935	140,724	134,939	3,317	131,622	3,038	5,785	1,373	69,211	67.0	64.3	4.1
Sept	210,161	140,847	135,310	3,356	131,954	3,030	5,537	1,247	69,314	67.0	64.4	3.9
Oct	210,378	141,000	135,464	3,241	132,223	3,044	5,536	1,311	69,378	67.0	64.4	3.9
Nov	210,577	141,136	135,478	3,176	132,302	3,285	5,658	1,317	69,441	67.0	64.3	4.0
Dec	210,743	141,489	135,836	3,274	132,562	3,088	5,653	1,326	69,254	67.1	64.5	4.0
2001: Jan ⁴	210,889	141,955	135,999	3,179	132,819	3,227	5,956	1,371	68,934	67.3	64.5	4.2
Feb	211,026	141,751	135,815	3,135	132,680	3,143	5,936	1,490	69,275	67.2	64.4	4.2

¹ Persons at work. Economic reasons include slack work, material shortages, inability to find fulltime work, etc.

² Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.

³ Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods because of a major redesign of the household survey questionnaire.

⁴ Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

NOTE.—Data beginning January 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001 reflect revised population controls. For details, see February issues, *Employment and Earnings*.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.